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8/13/02

60130-899

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Maass, et al.
Serial No.: 09/672,393
Filed: September 28, 2000
Group Art Unit: 3634
Examiner: Redman, Jerry E.
Title: MOTOR VEHICLE DOOR

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GROUP 3600

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Box AF
Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Official

Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Advisory Action mailed on July 24, 2002. Claims 10-24 remain in this application.

Claims 10-13 and 23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Szerdahelyi. Szerdahelyi does not disclose an access opening in a vehicle door sized to allow entry of a carrier module into an interior space formed between an exterior sheet and an interior sheet. The Examiner is calling the assembly openings 3a and 3b the access opening. As shown in Figure 1b of Szerdahelyi, the assembly openings 3a and 3b are smaller than the module 3 and therefore are not sized large enough to allow entry of the module 3 into an interior space formed between sheets of the doors as required by Applicant's claims. Szerdahelyi does not disclose any opening which would allow entry of a module between the sheets of a door. Applicant's claims are not anticipated by Szerdahelyi.

Additionally, claim 11 requires that the access opening to the hollow interior space of the door formed between the exterior sheeting and the interior sheet is closed by the exterior sheet. The Examiner is calling the access opening the assembly openings 3a and 3b. As shown in Figures 1b and 1c, the openings 3a and 3b are closed by the manual operating means 5 and the side air bag 6,

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and not an exterior sheeting as required by Applicant's claims. Claim 11 if further not anticipated by Szerdahelyi.

Claims 14-21 and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being obvious over Szerdahelyi in view of Carlo. The Examiner states that Carlo discloses two guide rails for a cable assembly, and therefore it would have been obvious to provide two guide rails in the Szerdahelyi. The window lift mechanism 31 of Szerdahelyi is mounted to face the outer door panel 1a. Carlo suggests a window raiser 6 mounted to face away from the outer door panel. If Carlo was truly combined with Szerdahelyi, the window lift mechanism 31 of Szerdahelyi would face away from the outer door panel, and not face the outer door panel as required by Szerdahelyi. There is no suggestion to combine these references, and Applicant's claims are not obvious.

Additionally, while guide rails are disclosed in Carlo, Applicant respectfully disagrees that it would have been obvious to use guide rails in Szerdahelyi. Applicant is claiming a unique motor vehicle door including guide rails, and is not claiming to have invented guide rails for a vehicle door. It would not be obvious to use guide rails in Szerdahelyi, and Applicant respectfully requests that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 10-24 are in condition for allowance. Applicant hereby appeals the final rejection. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the \$320.00 Notice of Appeal Fee to Deposit Account No. 50-1482, in the name of Carlson, Gaskey & Olds, P.C.

Respectfully Submitted,

CARLSON, GASKEY & OLDS, P.C.



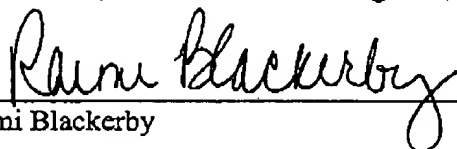
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Dated: August 9, 2002

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, TC3600, After Final, 703-872-9327 on August 9, 2002.



Raimi Blackerby

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